

REMARKS

The present communication is responsive to the Official Action mailed April 16, 2010. Claims 1 and 3-31 were pending before submission of this paper. Claims 1, 6, and 8-15 are rejected, claims 3-5, 7, and 14 are objected to, and claims 16-31 are allowed. Claims 1 and 4-6 are amended without adding new matter, claims 3, 7, and 8 are canceled, and claim 32 is newly added. Claims 1, 3-6, and 9-32 are currently pending. Reconsideration of the claims in view of the amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3-5, 7 and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 16-31 are allowed.

Amendment To The Specification

The Advisory Action dated February 17, 2010 states that the amendment submitted on January 25, 2010 would not be entered. The amendment submitted on January 25, 2010 included an amendment to the specification. In order to have the amendment entered, the amendment to the specification is submitted again herewith.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 6, 8-13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Daimaru* (JP 07060637). Without conceding the merits of the rejection, Applicant

respectfully submits that the amended claims overcome the rejection, as hereinafter set forth.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the feature of claim 3 (now canceled). As stated in the Official Action, the feature of claim 3 is allowable. Thus, amended claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 6, 9-13, and 15 depend from claim 1. As discussed above, claim 1 is allowable. Thus, claims 6, 9-13, and 15 are also allowable for at least the same reasons, as well as on their own merits.

Claim 8 has been canceled rendering the rejection of this claim moot.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

New Claim

Claim 32 is newly added and includes features that are not disclosed in the cited references. Specifically, claim 32 includes features of the previously pending claim 1 and the feature of claim 7 (now canceled). As stated in the Office Action, the feature of claim 7 is allowable. Thus, amended claim 32 is allowable.

CONCLUSION

As it is believed that all of the objections, rejections, and requirements set forth in the Official Action have been fully met by the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance of all claims are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: July 14, 2010

Respectfully submitted,
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